

12 JUL 57
23

February

URBAN DISTRICT OF HUNSTANTON.

A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R
OF
H E A L T H

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER
31st, 1956.



COUNCIL OFFICES,
HUNSTANTON,
NORFOLK.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HUNSTANTON.
(Previously New Hunstanton U.D.C.)

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR
1956.

Area (in acres): 1498 (including 434 acres of Foreshore).

Registrar General's estimate
of resident population: 4,130

Estimated number of Americans
living in the Urban District: 1,050

Number of inhabited houses according
to Rate Books. 1,325

Rateable value and sum represented by
a penny rate: £81,570
£320

Social Condition, including the chief
industries carried on in the area and
the extent of unemployment: None.

VITAL STATISTICS.

| <u>LIVE BIRTHS</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---|
| Legitimate | 120 | 57 | 63 | Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident Population and Americans 1956 - 24.1 |
| Illegitimate | 5 | 3 | 2 | |
| | ----- | --- | --- | Area comparability Factor Births 0.93. |
| | 125 | 60 | 65 | |

STILL BIRTHS

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | - | - | - | Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births |
| Illegitimate | 1 | 1 | - | 7.9. |

DEATHS

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|---|
| Death from all causes. | 30 | 10 | 20 | Rate per 1,000 estimated population - 7.2. |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|---|

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Deaths from puerperal causes: | | | | |
| Puerperal sepsis - | - | - | - | Area Comparability Factor 0.88. |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Other puerperal causes. | - | - | - | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|--|

| | |
|--|-------|
| Deaths of infants under one year of age: | 2 (M) |
| Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age. | NIL. |

DEATH RATE: All infants, per 1,000 live births . 16.0

Legitimate infants per 1,000
Legitimate live births: 16.6

Illegitimate infants per 1,000
Illegitimate live births: None.

| | <u>Total.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Measles (all ages) | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough (all ages) | - | - | - |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | - | - | - |

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has been received or required comment: NONE.

Any causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year: any conditions of occupation or environment, which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health: or any evidence, statistical or otherwise, that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults: NONE.

SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. One part-time Medical Officer of Health; one whole-time Public Health Inspector and two District Nurses.
2. (a) Laboratory Facilities: None other than Medical Research Council Laboratory at the Norwich City Isolation Hospital.
- (b) Ambulance Facilities: For non-infectious and accident cases a Daimler Motor Ambulance is provided by a Local Committee of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society, conjointly for use in the District. It is worked by a Local Committee and is self-supporting as far as possible. (After 1/5/48 taken over by Norfolk County Council, but run for them by the Committee referred to above.)
- (c) Nursing in the Home: The District Nurses undertake this.

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| (d) | Treatment Centres and Clinics, including clinics solely for diagnoses or consultation; | This work is undertaken at the King's Lynn Hospital. |
| (e) | Hospitals, Public and Voluntary; | None, other than the King's Lynn Hospital. |

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

A survey of sewers was carried out last year and a report on the Council's existing Sewage Works at South Beach was submitted by the Council's Consultants.

This report shows that the existing works are inadequate to deal with the present flow of sewage and that improvements and extensions, especially in relation to sludge disposal are essential.

The existing works, however, are in my opinion not sited in a suitable position, due to development of both the sea front and residential property. It is therefore highly desirable that a completely new sewage works be constructed on a more suitable site.

In connection with the provision of a new sewage works, application has been made to the Norfolk County Council for a financial contribution under Section 397 of the Public Health Act 1936. A further report and estimates are being prepared by the Council's Consultant Engineers.

All premises within the Urban District are now connected to the sewerage system except for seven isolated properties which have either septic tank or cesspool drainage.

2. House Refuse.

A weekly collection of house refuse was maintained throughout the year, additional collections varying from twice weekly to daily being made during the summer months from all catering establishments, hotels, sea front kiosks and cafes.

During the winter months, refuse collection is carried out by one 7 cu. yd. side loading vehicle, with the assistance as necessary of a second 7 cu. yd. vehicle. During the summer months both vehicles work full time. Consideration is being given by the Council to the replacement of one of these 7 cu. yd. vehicles by a large and more hygienic rear loading vehicle.

The amount of refuse collected has increased during the last few years at a greater rate than the increase of estimated population would indicate. This may be due to the trend to heat premises by other methods than solid fuel, especially as regards the American proportion of the population, resulting in no reduction in those premises, by burning, of the quantity of refuse produced.

Due to the considerable fall in prices obtainable for waste paper, the Council decided to cease all salvaging in

September 1956, until such times as improved prices for waste paper are obtainable.

The disposal of refuse was carried out during the early months of the year at South Beach Tip; during the summer and autumn at Redgate Hill Quarry Tip and during the latter part of November and the whole of December at the old Sewage Works, Golf Course Road, where an old filter bed is being filled and levelled. Disposal at the latter site will be completed during January, 1957.

Spraying with insecticide liquid was carried out at intervals at the refuse tips, to control the breeding of flies and other insects. Rodent Control measures were also taken as necessary.

3. Water Supply.

The total amount of water pumped during 1956 was 110,696,000 gallons, compared with 105,594,000 gallons in 1955. The amount pumped per month varied from a peak of 11,938,000 gallons in August compared with 12,704,000 gallons in August 1955, to a minimum of 7,697,000 gallons in March compared with 6,826,000 in January, 1955.

Of the 110,696,000 gallons of water pumped, 21,216,680 gallons were supplied to the Docking Rural District. The consumption in the Hunstanton Urban District of 89,479,320 gallons compared with 85,136,308 gallons in 1955. An increase in 1956 of 5.1%.

Twenty-seven samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. A high proportion of the samples taken before chlorination of the water were "highly satisfactory", only one being reported on as "unsatisfactory". All samples taken after chlorination were "highly satisfactory".

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS - SUMMARY.

| Before or After Chlorination. | No. of samples taken. | R E S U L T S | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| | | "Highly Satisfactory" | "Satisfactory" | "Unsatis- factory" |
| Before | 14 | 11 | 2 | 1 |
| After | 13 | 13 | 0 | 0 |

The results of samples of water taken before chlorination during the last two years, show an improvement over those taken before the sewerage scheme was carried out in the St. Mary's Ward.

4. Public Lavatories.

The Council controls six blocks of public lavatories in the district, two being provided with wash and brush up facilities. Consideration is being given to the provision of facilities for hand washing in the other blocks of lavatories.

Cleanliness of the three blocks of lavatories with full time attendants was as in previous years maintained at a high standard. Much improvement was effected at the other three blocks of lavatories due to more time being allocated for the employment of part-time cleaners. At these unattended lavatories, however, the cleanliness depends so much on the manner in which they are used by the General Public, a manner which unfortunately often leaves much to be desired.

5. Camping Grounds.

There are seven camping grounds within the Urban District, being licenced for a total of 611 moveable dwellings. The sites vary in size from 16 to 360 moveable dwellings.

All the sites are provided with blocks of lavatories.

Prior to the summer season, informal action resulted in eleven moveable dwellings, which were not in a satisfactory condition, being demolished and removed.

Forty-four inspections of these sites were carried out during the year and the attention of site owners drawn to any matters requiring attention. In all cases these matters were attended to, without the necessity of formal action being taken.

6. Rodent Control.

The Council's Rodent Operator carried out 74 control treatments at premises during the year. Control measures were also taken at frequent intervals on the refuse tips.

Treatments were carried out in the Council's sewers in May and November. Fewer "bait takes" were recorded in November indicating a lessening of rodent activity in the sewers.

7. Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is one open air swimming pool in the district controlled by the Council, the water being filtered and chlorinated sea water.

Bacteriological examination of the water during the summer season showed it to be "highly satisfactory".

8. Factories Acts 1937 and 1948.

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

| <u>Premises.</u> | <u>No. on Register.</u> | <u>Inspection.</u> | <u>Written Notices.</u> | <u>Occupier Prosecuted.</u> |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A. | NIL. | NIL. | - | - |

| <u>Premises.</u> | <u>No. on Register.</u> | <u>Inspection.</u> | <u>Written Notices.</u> | <u>Occupier Prosecuted.</u> |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (11) Factories not included in (1), in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. | 19 | 8 | - | - |
| (111) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. | 15 | 15 | - | - |

2. Cases in which defects were found - NIL.

A Certificate as to Means of Escape in Case of Fire was issued in respect of one factory, under Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

1. Requisitioned Properties.

No properties are held under requisition by the Council.

2. Council House Estates, etc.

(a) Park Road Estate.

Consists of five aged persons 2-bedroomed bungalows.

(b) Sea Lane Estate.

Consists of 8 Duplex flats (4 x 2 bedroom and 4 x 1 bedroom) and 12 x 3 bedroom houses.

(c) The Sandringham.

Contains 12 self-contained flats.

(d) Hill Street Estate.

No further building was carried out during the year. The Estate now comprises 50 x 3 bedroom houses, 62 x 2 bedroom houses and 12 x 1 bedroom bungalows.

(e) Lighthouse Cottages.

Consists of 2 x 2 bedroom houses attached to the old Lighthouse.

The total Council House property is as follows:-

| | | |
|------------------|---|----|
| 3 bedroom houses | - | 62 |
| 2 bedroom houses | - | 64 |
| Flats | - | 20 |
| Bungalows | - | 17 |

TOTAL: 163

3. Private Houses.

The number of private houses completed and occupied during the year was 14.

As a result of flat conversions, 10 extra units of accommodation have also been provided.

4. Public Health and Housing Acts.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of complaints received: | 34 |
| Number of inspections and reinspections: | 59 |
| Informal requests to carry out work: | 20 |
| Work completed as a result of the above: | 17 |
| Statutory Notices served: | NIL |
| Number of Demolition Orders made: | 1 |
| Number of Premises Demolished: | 1 |

5. Verminous Premises.

Disinfestation was carried out at three premises during the year. In each case the premises were flea infested.

6. Housing Acts - Improvement Grants.

Two applications were received during the year and grants approved in each case.

Both these schemes, together with one approved during 1955, were completed during the year.

SECTION E. INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

1. Milk Supply.

There are no milk producers in the Urban District, but four milk distributors operate.

Ordinary raw milk is bottled and retailed by one distributor, but the main supply is of special designated milks (Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised) treated and bottled outside the Urban District.

Five milk samples were taken during the year and submitted for Bacteriological Examination to the Public Health Laboratory. One Pasteurised Milk Sample was found not to conform to the required bacteriological standard, but following reports to both the Authority and the dairy concerned a repeat sample proved satisfactory.

2. Ice Cream.

Twenty-eight premises are registered for the sale of ice cream, which is all supplied by manufacturers outside the district.

3. Manufacture of Sausages, etc.

Five premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages etc. All premises were inspected and conditions found to be satisfactory.

4. Meat and Food Inspection.

There is one licensed private slaughterhouse in the Urban District.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or Part.

| | <u>Cattle Excluding Cows.</u> | <u>Cows.</u> | <u>Calves.</u> | <u>Sheep and Lambs.</u> | <u>Pigs.</u> | <u>Horses.</u> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Number Killed | 150 | Nil | 5 | 25 | 354 | Nil |
| Number Inspected | 150 | - | 5 | 25 | 354 | - |
| <u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole Carcasses condemned. | Nil | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. | 34 | - | Nil | Nil | 5 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci. | 22.67% | - | 00.00% | 00.00% | 1.41% | - |
| <u>Tuberculosis only.</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned. | Nil | - | Nil | Nil | 1 | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. | 4 | - | Nil | Nil | 14 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis. | 2.67% | - | 00.00% | 00.00% | 4.24% | - |
| <u>Cysticercosis.</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned. | Nil | - | - | - | - | - |

Condemnation notes have been issued in respect of food inspected, other than at the slaughterhouse for the following:-

Tinned meat - 11 tins; tinned vegetables - 16 tins; tinned fruit - 9 tins; tinned milk - 4 tins; tinned soup - 4 tins.

Condemned food is disposed of by burial at the Council's Refuse Disposal Site.

5. Food Premises.

A survey and inspection of food premises was commenced during the year, and 50 premises have so far been inspected.

Of these premises 24 were found to be without adequate hand washing facilities with hot and cold water supply. In one premises a W.C. compartment was found to communicate directly with a food preparation room. The attention of owners was also drawn to any repairs or re-decoration necessary.

Clean food handling was discussed at each food premises inspected.

Other than Unlicenced Hotels, Guest Houses and Boarding Houses, there are 108 food premises in the district, given under the following headings (premises have been included under the heading denoting the main business carried on).

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----|----|
| Cafes and Restaurants... | ... | 26 |
| Sweets Confectionary ... | ... | 20 |
| General Provisions ... | ... | 18 |
| Licenced Premises ... | ... | 12 |
| Licenced Club Premises ... | ... | 6 |
| Fruit and Vegetables ... | ... | 7 |
| Butchers ... | ... | 5 |
| Bakehouses ... | ... | 3 |
| Shell Fish ... | ... | 2 |
| Dairies ... | ... | 1 |
| Fishmongers ... | ... | 2 |
| Fish and Chips ... | ... | 2 |
| Crisp Factory ... | ... | 1 |
| Mineral Water Factory ... | ... | 1 |
| Slaughterhouse ... | ... | 1 |
| Beer Bottling & Store ... | ... | 1 |

In connection with clean food handling, the general public are urged to play their part. This they can do by complaining at the food premises concerned and reporting any unhygienic practices they observe; e.g. licking of fingers when picking up wrapping paper, blowing into paper bags, smoking by food handlers, serving of food in or on dirty or cracked containers, handling food with dirty hands or in dirty clothes.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

New Cases and Mortality During 1956.

| <u>Age Period.</u> | <u>NEW CASES.</u> | | | | <u>DEATHS.</u> | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|
| | <u>Respiratory.</u> | | <u>Non Respiratory.</u> | | <u>Respiratory.</u> | | <u>Non Respiratory.</u> | |
| | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> |
| 0 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 - and upwards. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

